

IN THE CLAIMS:

Cancel claims 1 and 7, add claim 8, and amend claims 2, 3 and 4.

1. (Canceled).
2. (Currently amended). A rolling mill according to claim ~~1~~ 8,

characterized in that

the transport device (12) comprises an undercarriage (13) with rollers (15) and on which a support plate (2) is transversely displaceably arranged, and the rollers (15) cooperate with ramps (20) arranged on a base (11) of a respective trench (10), wherein the undercarriage (13) is displaceable over the ramps (20) from a position beneath the mill floor level (7) into an elevated position in the trench (10), and the support plates (2a) are aligned with the mill floor level in an end position for replacing the working rolls.

3. (Currently amended). A rolling mill according to claim ~~1-or 2~~,

characterized in that

a front and a rear roller pair (15a, 15b) of the undercarriage (13) and corresponding ramp pairs (20a, b) are offset relative to each other.

4. (Currently amended). A rolling mill according to ~~one of claims 1 through 3~~ claim 2,

characterized in that

for being displaced between the two positions, the undercarriage (13) cooperates with a piston-cylinder unit.

5. (Original). A rolling mill according to claim 4,

characterized in that

the piston-cylinder unit is formed as a back-up rolls-replacing piston-cylinder unit (23).

6. (Original). A rolling mill according to claim 5,

characterized in that

for facilitating of a delivery movement of the undercarriage (13) on a ramp pair (20a, b), the piston or the piston-extending traverse (24) of the back-up rolls-replacing, piston-cylinder unit (23) is connected with an end of a push rod (25) another end of which is arranged on the undercarriage (13), in particular, in the center.

7. (Canceled).

8. (New). A rolling mill, comprising support plates which are provided on an operating side (BS) of roll stands (F1-Fi), are displaced transversely to roll axes, are outfitted for receiving working roll sets (4), and are located adjacent to a mill floor level (7) for transporting the working rolls (4) back and forth; and trenches (10) which are arranged upstream of respective roll stands (F1-Fi) on the operating side (BS) and a base (11) of which is outfitted for delivery of back-up roll sets (9), and a transport device associated with the support plates (2) for transporting respective support plates (2) between a position for replacing the working rolls and in which the support plates (2a) are arranged immediately adjacent to the roll stands above the trenches (10), and a position for replacing back-up rolls and in which the support plates (2c) are located beneath the mill floor level (7) adjacent to a trench region,

wherein the support plates (2) are loosely arranged side-by side in the working rolls-replacing position and are displaced together either in one or another direction with two displacement units (26) provided at respective ends of the support plate line (1),

wherein each of the support plates (2) is associated with an adjustment unit (28) having a variably adjustable position and which provides for adjustment of a respective support plate relative to a respective roll stand (Fi) in the working roll-replacing position; and

wherein side guide rollers (27) are provided for preventing tilting of the support plates (12).